

NEWSBRIEFS

Help for Canutillo

Ten families in the Canutillo area lost almost everything in the flood of 2006 and are consequently left to spend the winter season without many basic necessities. The Junior League of El Paso, Inc. has initiated a program called Project SMILE, which stands for Spreading Miscellaneous Items to Less Fortunate El Pasoans. According to a teacher at Canutillo Elementary School, "Ninety percent or more of the students in the area lived at or below the poverty level before the floods." This means many flood victims are having a difficult time recovering from this disaster. The Junior League of El Paso, Inc. will be accepting new or gently used donations for ten families at their headquarters located on the west side, 520 Thunderbird. There will be a collection on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 2-4 p.m. and a donation box will be available Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. through Dec. 14. The items will be distributed to the families on Dec. 16. If you have questions about Project SMILE or specific donations, call 915-584-3511. Items that are greatly needed include socks, underwear, pajamas, warm clothing, blankets, shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, laundry soap, beans, rice, and electric heaters with thermostats only.

Senior performance

Students at Col. John O. Ensor Middle School are hoping to brighten the holidays of senior citizens. On Dec. 14, ESL and Bilingual students, faculty and staff will be visiting Sun Plaza Senior Citizen Housing Complex, 1221 E. San Antonio from 9:30 a.m. to noon to deliver goodie bags to more than 350 residents. The Senior Citizens Christmas Celebration will also showcase performances by students who are learning Christmas Carols in English, along with Adult ESL students. The event will also hold a coronation of a Senior King and Queen. "This is a life-long learning lesson for our students, they are giving back to the community and to seniors," says Daniel Ramirez, Writing Lab Teacher. "It's an intergenerational event, usually events for seniors and children are separate, but we are bringing them together." The school is accepting donations such as fruit, nuts, candies, cookies, toiletries or any other item that could be included in the Christmas bags. To donate items or for more information, call Rosa Hood, Ensor Middle School Principal, at 937-6000 or Ramirez at 937-6048.

Storing for December

Whether it's can goods, blankets or toys, every little bit helps when it goes to the "Holiday Store" sponsored by the Socorro Independent School District Operational Services Department. Every year, the department opens the "Holiday Store" to

See BRIEFS, Page 5

Dogs are smarter than some people. They wag their tails and not their tongues.

— Quips & Quotes

Residents, school districts still recovering from summer floods

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

UPPER VALLEY — "The future is there. You have to keep going; there's no other way."

That is the upbeat way Rachel Quintana feels today, more than two months after the August floods caused more than \$80,000 damage to her Vinton trailer home.

"I'm OK," she says. "I told my boys we can't let this drag us down."

However, Quintana, an employee of the Canutillo ISD, has every reason not to be upbeat.

She has no coverage on her home. Her homeowner's insurance policy was cancelled in October and she received a check for only \$192 from FEMA for damages to her home. Major damage to her home, including the foundation, remains unrepainted.

In Canutillo ISD, expenses and damages are more than \$50,000 for the school district.

Alfredo Vasquez, public information of-

ficer for the district, says it has filed for \$10,712 for various expenses incurred in operating a shelter for flood victims in one of its school buildings.

In addition, there was \$43,000 in damage to sidewalks around the football stadium. Water caused the sidewalks to cave in.

The district expects upwards of 75 percent reimbursement from FEMA.

Meanwhile other area school districts have reported flood damage, including Anthony ISD. "We had more rain damage than we thought," says Vern Butler, superintendent of the AISD. "We qualified for more money than we thought."

Joe Herrera, chief financial officer for AISD, says damage is estimated at \$50,000-\$60,000, of which about \$6,000 has already been paid. The biggest problems were roof leaks and damage to ceiling tiles and sheet rock with water seeping into classrooms. The elementary school was hardest hit.

Herrera expects to eventually receive reimbursement for 80 percent of damages.

Vinton wants to upgrade damaged roads to better than pre-flood condition

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

VINTON — The rains have long since passed, but the emotional and physical effects they caused in this Upper Valley community remain.

The newly-scoured and scarred arroyos that cut through the village are dry now, but bear mute testimony to the havoc wrought in the August rains that filled their banks to overflowing and sending water into homes, causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in property damage.

Vinton Mayor Madeleine Praino discusses how the village government is coping with the aftermath of the floods in a tour of the areas most heavily damaged. Praino carefully maneuvers her car over Ledbetter, Kiely and Quejette, the streets hardest hit. She shows how far flood waters spread. Damage is still visible

to some homes.

At one point, Ledbetter has been restored to a temporary and precarious one-way crossing of an arroyo. It is the top priority for repair. Praino points to two partially clogged concrete drainage pipes lying askew in the arroyo. They were inadequate to channel the flood waters. She says a six-foot by six-foot culvert under the road is needed to provide better protection and better flow from runoff.

Therein lies part of the problem for mayor and members of the Village Council who are presently wrestling with the new budget in a series of workshops. They are trying to factor in the cost of repairs to the village infrastructure. The cost of repairs is unknown because the village is in the process of preparing to solicit bids.

Another factor is FEMA's contribution to the

See VINTON, Page 4

Expansion contract is approved for El Paso Zoo

By Liz Kern
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — Patrons and staff of the El Paso Zoo were pleased by the recent announcement that the El Paso City Council, by unanimous decision, has approved the construction contract with Dantex Construction Inc. to build the Zoo's Western Expansion project.

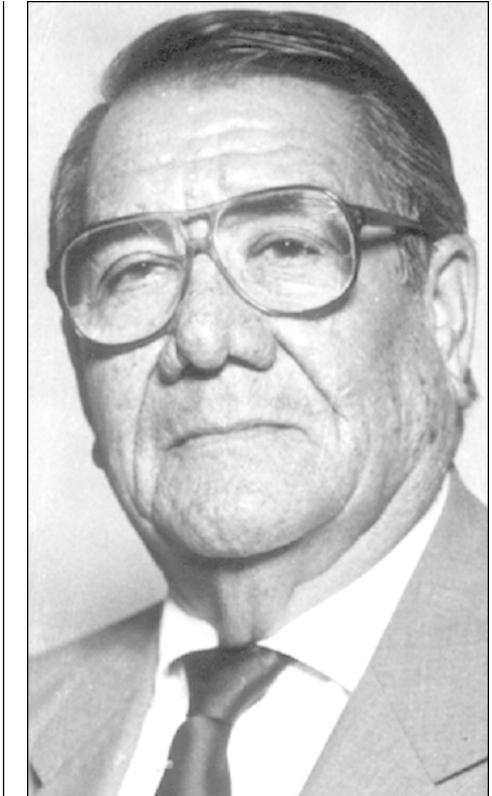
El Paso City representatives voted unanimously to award a lump sum contract of \$17,080,073 to Dantex Construction Inc. as part of a planned phase project. This phase will primarily create facilities to support the major new exhibit areas. All key elements of the zoo bond project are now being completed — the vote by the city approves the last of the four project phases. The include the Zoo parking lot which is already under construction,



— Photo courtesy El Paso Zoo

KING OF THE JUNGLE — Lions will be a featured exhibit in the new African Savannah.

See ZOO, Page 4



Rogelio Sanchez

Rogelio Sanchez, longtime political force in El Paso County, dies at 85

Courier Staff Reports

EL PASO COUNTY — Rogelio Sanchez, educator, politician and El Paso County Commissioner for 36 years, died on Tuesday morning, Nov. 28 at the age of 85.

Services in his honor will be held at the Guadalupe Church in Fabens. Visitation will be there on Friday, Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. with Rosary to follow at 7 p.m. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 10 a.m.

Sanchez was born in the Coahuila, Mexico region on June 14, 1921, one of 10 children born to Rogelio and Petra Sanchez.

He immigrated to the U.S. along with his family in 1923 at the age of two. The family settled in Ft. Hancock, in Hudspeth County, and the family began farming. He later would recall that in those days his family was "poor but happy."

However, he and his siblings all finished high school, and eventually all attended college to become educators — an unusual accomplishment for Mexican immigrants at that time.

Sanchez was the first of his siblings to "break the ice" by attending college and in many areas of his life he set the example of pursuing education and overcoming ethnic discrimination. He earned a degree from the State Teacher's College at Sul Ross in Alpine, Texas, amid numerous instances of discrimination that he would later recount with humor.

In an interview in 1996, Sanchez was asked what his motivation was to seek a college degree. He replied, "Well, I thought that I could better myself by getting an education. I have always felt that I, you know, education is a basis for anything, you know, right now to progress, you know. And, I went to high school and I was valedictorian of my

See SANCHEZ, Page 2



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Want-to

People talk about barriers a lot these days.

Income barriers. Language barriers. Racial barriers. Immigration barriers. Social barriers.

It's real common for us to consider other people as barriers. Our husband/wife/parent/child/brother/sister/neighbor/teacher/boss/government representative or police officer is holding us back, standing in our way.

This is a common complaint amongst our young people, but the barriers they are usually talking about are those that other people put up between them and checking accounts, credit cards and car keys.

I've been taking notice of another kind of barrier recently that is holding people back in a big way — not only themselves, but the people who

hire them and the people they are supposed to help in their jobs and in their personal lives. It is becoming rampant at every age level, not just our youth.

The only name I can use to really describe it is a "want-to" barrier.

Now, consider in history what would have happened if the really big movers and shakers had suffered from a lack of want-to — even if what they wanted wasn't always good for them. In fact, these folks usually had an overabundance of want-to and, in many instances, suffered for it.

Conversely, let me draw you a picture of what a want-to barrier looks like. A real bad case I saw recently looked like a middle-aged man, slightly balding and a little on the heavy side, putting away produce in a grocery store.

That's not the way all want-to bar-

riers look, of course. The real identifying sign is in the eyes and the expression.

You see, there's this specialty food that our family has often made for Thanksgiving. One of the ingredients is a little hard to find and there is a chain of food stores that always has it. I buy it there, even if the price is a little on the up-side, because I know I won't have to hunt for it. It's always been in the refrigerated section of the produce department.

So I go to the produce department in said store and take a look around but I don't see it. Enter the fellow with the barrier. He is stocking produce nearby. I go over and ask him if he knows where I can find it. He doesn't even look at me. "Nope," he says flatly. "We don't carry that."

I figure they must have moved it. So I go through all the other refrigerated sections of the store. Still no luck. I finally ask the attendant in the deli section. He says sure, it's in the produce department.

So the deli man and I trundle back to the produce department, right up to this man who said they don't have it. When he sees me, he gets this deer-

in-the-headlights look. My deli guy says, "She wants such-and-such. Will you get it for her?"

"Yes," the produce man says, just as natural as you please. The deli man leaves and the produce man looks at me out of the corner of his eye. Then, of all things, he says: "They just came in on the truck."

What, during the past 10 minutes? He doesn't strike me as a real speed stocker.

He leads me to a corner of the produce section where my most-coveted prize is buried under some pre-packaged salad. It has clearly been there a lot longer than 10 minutes.

The four bucks or so that I spent on my special purchase is small potatoes, no pun intended, but if this man behaves this way with other customers — and you can bet he does — his want-to barrier will eventually create a hefty overall loss to his employer. No telling how much his family is suffering because of it.

Americans just love stories about people who exhibit courage and overcome obstacles. Christopher Reeve was one of our favorites, as is Lance Armstrong, and the little

surfer girl, Bethany Hamilton, who got her arm bit off by a shark and still went back in the water to become a champion again.

We cheer long and loud for those with the courage to overcome barriers in their lives but we're all too quick to accept mediocrity in our own even though every minute of every day offers every one of us an opportunity to shine by taking one more step toward a tangible goal.

There are no honest barriers to learning a new skill or to improving the ones we already have. There's nothing to keep us from doing good, both for ourselves and for others. There's no reason to point to other people as the reason we're not happy, or fulfilled, or getting where we want to be.

The people I admire most are those who refuse to accept barriers. Instead, they muster up a vision, set some goals, chart themselves a course and stick to it everyday, no matter how mundane, difficult or tiring it may occasionally be.

The quality that sets people like that apart is small but powerful. It's their want-to.

Holiday lighting is bright — and dangerous

By Mario Hernandez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — Many homes in the El Paso area have already begun or will begin to decorate their homes for the holidays. Decorative Christmas tree lights may light up a holiday scene but they can also be potentially dangerous — from electric shock to persons installing lights to fires in the homes.

El Paso Fire Officials urge the public to take a few extra moments to examine their lights visually, while they are unplugged, for the possible defects described below, to help reduce the risks of fire or electric shock from defective bulbs, light sets and worn extension cords.

Many light sets use standard size Christmas bulbs. For these sets, before inserting replacement bulbs examine them as follows:

- Examine each light bulb for improper assembly. If the glass readily separates from the bulb's base, the bulb should not be used.
- Check each light bulb for protruding wires from the solder tip at the bulb's base or at the side of the bulb where the glass meets the base. If wire protrusions are detected, consumers can repair the defect by cutting as much of the protruding wire off as possible.
- Check each light bulb for excessive or irregular solder at the bottom and side of each bulb base, which may prevent complete insertion of the bulb into the socket. If this con-

dition is found, the bulb should not be used.

- Inspect the interior of each light socket carefully. Sets that use the standard size bulbs often have lamp holders with two metal tabs inside each socket. With the set still unplugged, check to see if tabs are used. If they are, there should be a side tab and a center contact at the bottom. If these two metal parts come together when a bulb is inserted, or if these two parts are both upright, a short circuit will occur when the set is used. If you are not sure that the tabs in the socket are correctly located, have a knowledgeable repair person check the set before you use it.

There are also some special precautions to follow with the miniature Christmas lights.

- When replacing miniature bulbs, be sure to use bulbs having the same voltage rating (for example, a 3 volt lamp to replace a 3 volt lamp, a 12 volt lamp to replace a 12 volt lamp). This is particularly important to prevent dangerous overheating, melting, and possible fire. Remember bulbs are not marked individually with a voltage rating, so save the voltage information on the bulb packaging.

Burned out bulbs should be re-

placed promptly because the remaining bulbs burn brighter and hotter for each burned out bulb.

- Light sets with bulbs that burn out rapidly or sets that show signs of melting around bulbs are early indications of defective or incorrect lamps. These sets should not be used.

- Miniature lights have been used in displays where lights have been bunched up together into a cup or pot for special effects. Unless the set is designed or recommended for this use, the heat generated by bunching the lights together may result in melting, which could expose live parts. Christmas lights are basically designed for decorating trees and objects where lamps are separated so the heat of the lamps is not concentrated.

For all types of Christmas lights:

- With the lights still unplugged, check the light string for frayed insulation, loose connections, and exposed bare wires. Repair or discard sets displaying these potential trouble spots.

- Check all light sockets on the string to make sure none of them is broken or cracked. If the sockets are broken or cracked, the set should not be used.

• After visually examining the set,

place it on a non-flammable surface and plug it in for 10-15 minutes before decorating. If the set is not working properly, or if bulbs don't light, repair or discard the set. Unplug the set when decorating.

- Do not cover lamps with decorations that were not supplied with the set. The set may not be designed to handle the increased heating and could melt, thereby exposing live parts.

- Never use Christmas lights on a metallic tree because a person could be electrocuted if the tree becomes charged with electricity from metallic tree needle decorations getting into the light sockets.

- Any set to be used outdoors should be specifically constructed and labeled for outdoor use. Do not use indoor lights for outside lighting. Remove outdoor lights as soon as the season is over; they are not designed for prolonged exposure to the elements, especially in winter weather.

- To avoid the possibility of a dangerous electric shock, do not insert or remove bulbs with the set plugged in, especially if outdoors. Always unplug Christmas lights when you go to bed or leave the house. Lights could short and start a fire.

Sanchez

From Page 1

class (in Ft. Hancock). It was a small class — ten of us, you know. And, I got a scholarship to go to Alpine and I will never forget that."

After he received his degree, he was drafted in 1942 and served with the infantry in the United States Army in the South Pacific during World War II. After he returned home to El Paso County he taught school in the Ft. Hancock, Tornillo and Clint school districts.

In 1950 he married Mary Montoya, a resident of Fabens, and they had two sons and a daughter. He is survived by his wife of 56 years; son Michael and wife Patricia; son

Albert; and daughter Maricela and husband Eduardo Chibli. Other survivors include his brothers, Luis and Jesus; three sisters, Irene Batista, Dolores Rivas and Josephina Sanchez; and two grandchildren, Aaron and Marrisa Chibli.

He retired from public service in the mid-1990s but maintained a real estate license and operated Sanchez Real Estate.

Sanchez' long service to El Paso County is marked by the dedication of the Rogelio Sanchez Center in Fabens, which serves as both a library and community center, and by the Rogelio Sanchez State Jail. During his tenure, Thomason Hospital was built, Transmountain Road was constructed and the Sun Bowl at UTEP was built. He was instrumental in forming the Rio Grande Council of

Governments.

Congressman Silvestre Reyes' paid tribute to Rogelio Sanchez by calling him "a giant for his people."

"We are all saddened with the passing of Rogelio," said Reyes. "He takes with him a big part of El Paso's history. He was truly a historical figure and, as anyone will tell you who knew him, he was a giant for his people. He gave back to his community again and again, as a school teacher, as a World War II veteran, and for four decades as the Lower Valley County Commissioner."

"Along with former Mayor Raymond Telles and his brother Richard, who was also a longtime commissioner with Rogelio, they broke the race barrier in El Paso for getting Hispanics elected to public office. He was a Democrat's Democrat."

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

PUBLISHED: Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.

COPYRIGHT: Entire contents © 2006 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: 52 issues for \$35. Delivery via 1st class mail.

OFFICE: MAIL: 14200 Ashford 15344 Werling Ct. Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235 Fax: 852-0123 E-mail: wtxcc@wtccourier.com Website: wtccourier.com

Publisher Rick Shrum **Business Manager** Francis D. Shrum **Contributors** Don Woodyard Steve Escajeda Arleen Beard • Jan Engels

Homesteader News, Inc.

Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

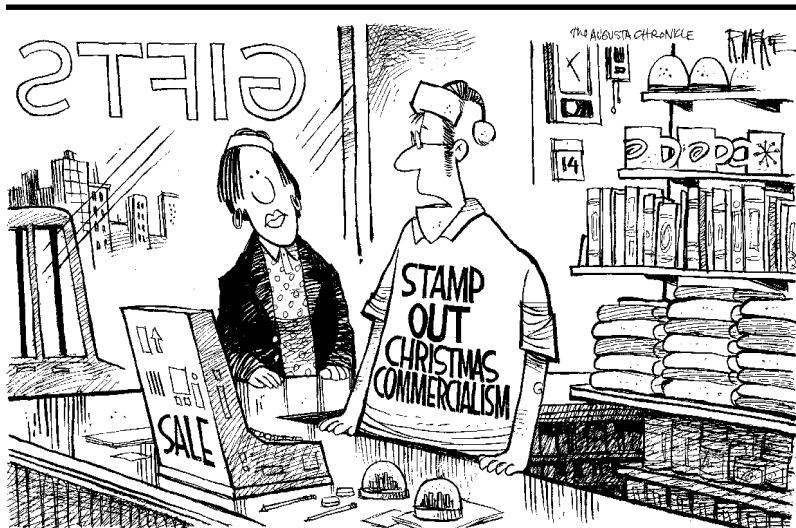


SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

DISPLAY RATES: Open rate — \$20 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

CLASSIFIED RATES: \$5 for 15 words, \$10 for 35 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

AD DEADLINE: Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.



View from here By Marc A. Levin

Some people actually want to go to jail

Who would voluntarily choose to go to prison? It turns out quite a few people.

On Oct. 11, a Columbus, Ohio, man robbed a bank for the sole purpose of going to prison. The Associated Press reported that Timothy Bowers entered the bank and handed a teller a note demanding cash in an envelope. The teller gave him four \$20 bills and pushed a silent alarm. Bowers then handed the money to a security guard standing in the lobby and told him it was his day to be a hero.

Bowers asked Judge Angela White for a three-year prison sentence and she obliged. Bowers, who is 63, reasoned that prison was easier than working, claiming, "At my age, the jobs available to me are minimum-wage jobs."

Bowers isn't alone. The *Houston Chronicle* reported in September that 43 percent of the city's drunk drivers are choosing prison over probation. These offenders attribute their decision to probation terms that are up to 10 years — the longest in the country — onerous probation conditions and fees, and the prospect of being revoked to prison for 2.5 years simply for technical violations of probation, such as missing a meeting.

While drunk drivers and bank robbers may prefer prison, it is a raw deal for taxpayers. Probation costs about \$2 a day, half of which is paid with offender fees. Meanwhile, prison in Texas costs \$40 a day. Moreover, legislators will be asked to appropriate more than \$400 million for three new prisons when they meet in January. Prisoners are the only Americans with a constitutional right to health care and square meals.

There are several solutions to this quandary. Prison can be toughened, but the Constitution's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment has been broadly interpreted to preclude painful punishments. Intense manual labor programs are constitutional and could make prison more of a deterrent, but with Texas short 2,000 to 3,000 prison guards, supervision resources needed to run work programs are scarce.

Given that Bowers is 63, his case also raises the issue of geriatric prisoners. Inmates over 60 cost Texas more than three times other prisoners for health care, but have a recidivism rate that is less than a third of younger inmates. Prisoners are not eligible for Medicaid, Medi-

care, and Social Security, so state taxpayers bear the full cost of their health care. However, parolees can qualify for such benefits, even if they must live in a residential facility as a condition of parole.

Texas has a special needs program intended to release prisoners who are so old or frail that they pose little danger, but the program's requirements are so strict that less than six percent of eligible offenders — 167 out of 2,821 — are actually released. The Comptroller's office has recommended changing the requirement that inmates must

be within six months of death to twelve months. More than 100 inmates die every year during the lengthy special needs application process. There are about 200 physically handicapped prisoners alone, mostly paraplegics and multiple-limb amputees.

We must also bolster programs such as probation that provide an alternative to prison for the least serious offenders.

Probation should be reformed so that it is a path to success, not a trap that leads offenders to select prison. House Corrections Chairman Jerry Madden of Plano will reintroduce probation reform legislation next session that would reduce maximum probation terms to five years for most offenders, and increase the use of progressive sanctions. Progressive sanctions minimize prison revocations through measured responses to each technical violation, such as increased reporting, a curfew, drug treatment, or even a night in county jail.

Probation officers should also be empowered to impose these sanctions without going to the judge. Too often, judges are overriding officers' recommendation for a change in conditions, such as treatment for a failed drug test, and simply revoking the probationer to prison.

It is time to reexamine the effectiveness of prison as a deterrent and make better use of alternatives such as probation and parole for nonviolent and infirm offenders. Then we can stop criminals like Bowers from breaking the bank.

Marc A. Levin, Esq., is the director of the Center for Effective Justice at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit research institute based in Austin. He can be contacted at mlevin@texaspolicy.com.

Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

'Hyperborder' conference declared a success by speaker



Local and national indicators illustrate the importance of cross-border trade in the U.S.-Mexico border region. For instance, almost \$40 billion in trade passed through the El Paso port of entry in 2005. The policy debate in Washington about how to manage our international borders is more heated than ever; and since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the United States government and governments around the world have changed the way they view international borders.

Here in the U.S., Congress has passed what I consider to be an ill-conceived plan to build a fence on the U.S.-Mexico border, created the Department of Homeland Security, and implemented new security initiatives such as the US-VISIT program. Here in El Paso, we have endured long lines at our ports of entry due to increased scrutiny of passengers and cargo and a heightened focus on securing our borders.

These issues and practical advice to help local business owners streamline their cross-border commerce

were the focus of the recent 2nd annual international trade conference in El Paso, known as Hyperborder 2006. I worked with several regional cross-border business leaders to develop this second annual event to help increased numbers of business owners in the region capitalize on the opportunities our binational region offers and learn about initiatives in play on the federal level.

I served as the keynote speaker at the luncheon and highlighted that El Paso and the Camino Real corridor are essential to U.S.-Mexico trade and the hub of commerce on the U.S. Southern border. Our strategic location sets us apart from other regions for trade with Mexico and global markets, and it is vitally important to continue fostering partnerships that will carry our region forward in today's changing global economy.

Hyperborder 2006 assisted established business owners, professionals and educators, and startup small businesses learn more about the unique trade opportunities in the region, and how best to benefit from them. Participants had the opportunity to attend seminars with interna-

tionally recognized experts from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Plan Estratégico de Juárez, the University of Texas at El Paso, Customs and Border Protection, Mexican Customs and US-VISIT, and representatives from trade groups such as the Juárez Association of Maquilas, the International Business Accelerator in New Mexico and several chambers of commerce.

The conference offered an Executive Track for business professionals and educators and a Small Business Track for business owners in El Paso and Juárez.

Many of the participants in Hyperborder 2006 have long been leaders in educating policymakers both in Washington and Mexico City about our region, and your hard work and support are extremely valuable. I would like to thank everyone who made this two-day, two-city event possible, and I look forward to our continued work together. Based on the success and feedback from participants in both our 2005 and 2006 conferences, this year's Hyperborder event certainly will not be our last.

Zoo

From Page 1

improvements to the Americas exhibits including a new reptile house, construction of the African exhibits, and a new front entry gate with new restrooms.

And what's in the mix for the Africa Savannah? Besides the new entrance, there will be a new visitors' facility, a new restaurant, a new gift shop, new restrooms and younger visitors will enjoy riding though the zoo on a new train sponsored by SSA (Service Systems Associates), the Zoo's concessionaire. The El Paso Zoo will double in size — expanding from 18 acres to 36 acres. The Africa Savannah will be built where Dudley Field once stood.

Educating future generations is at the forefront of Zoo priorities and parents will be able to take their children to programs at the Discovery

Education Center. The Center will cost approximately \$1,310,000 in bond funds, a major grant from the El Paso Water Utilities, and other grant foundations.

The king of the jungle — the lion — will be a featured exhibit in the new African Savannah. It will be a place where children can watch lions sun themselves while nearby



— Photo courtesy El Paso Zoo

EXPANDING — Materials are already on-site for the zoo's new exhibits and facilities.

Selling your home? Give me a call.

ELLIS THOMPSON

REALTOR®

915.731.3176

KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



- Master Licensed Plumber #M18624
- Bonded and Insured
- Senior Citizens Discount

- Sewer and Drain Cleaning
- Faucet and Sprinkler Repair
- Appliance Installation
- Evaporative Cooler Service

Horizon Plumbing
852-1079

ONE TEAM - ONE GOAL

UTEP
BASKETBALL
Men's

Chicago St.
Wednesday, Nov. 29th
7:05pm @ Don Haskins
New Mexico
Sunday, Dec. 3rd
1pm @ Don Haskins

KISS FM
93.1
El Paso's favorite music!

abc 7

AUSA

Mattress Closeouts
Name Brand Mattresses

- All New, With Warranty, in Plastic
- Huge Discounts from Store Prices

\$119 Queen Pillow Top Set w/Box Spring

— ALL SIZES AVAILABLE —
Can Deliver — While They Last
By Appointment Only

(915) 471-7144
ASC Wholesale, Inc. • El Paso, TX

Women's
North Texas
Saturday, Dec. 2nd
1pm @ Don Haskins
Promo: First 100 students
will receive a free Boo-Koo
and other Pepsi Products

For More Ticket Information call
747-5234

ONE TEAM - ONE GOAL

Vinton

From Page 1

learn from the past and rebuild better for the future. If the village doesn't, it risks a recurrence of the same level of damage from future floods.

Part of the problem, Praino explains, is illegal construction. As an example, she points out a pedestrian bridge built by residents across an arroyo. Driving down another road, she indicates illegal construction by two men who are laying stone to build up the sides of an arroyo.

"People have moved God's waterways," according to Vinton resident Rachel Quintana. She suffered major damage to her trailer home.

Praino hopes that work can begin on repairs to Ledbetter in January of 2007 after the letting of bids and the selection of a contractor.

Second priority is Kiely which has been repaired "to a point," but is in need of more. Third is Quejette, an undedicated roadway. "It is in dire need of repair," Praino says.

Returning to village offices from the short tour of the physical flood damage, the mayor adds, "I hope the people will heal emotionally."

Pepperoni's Pizza & Deli

852-2544

Limited Delivery Area

Chinese Food

Burgers & Subs



San Elizario Independent School District
Public Notice of AEIS Meeting

The community is invited to attend a public hearing of the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) annual report to be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. in the San Elizario ISD Board Room, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

Junta del AEIS

Se invita a la comunidad entera a que asistan a una audiencia publica del reporte anual del Sistema Indicador de Excelencia Academica (AEIS) que se lleva a cabo el miércoles 13 de diciembre del 2006 a las 4:00 p.m. en la Sala de Juntas de San Elizario ISD, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

WTCC: 11/30/06

Town of Horizon City
PUBLIC NOTICE

During a Special City Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2006, the Town Council approved the following:

1) Amendment 001 to Ordinance 0154 — Budget FY 2006-2007. The purpose of the amendment is to transfer funds from the Public Safety Contingencies Account 505818 in the amount of \$11,531.57 to Salaries Account 505101 for \$10,015.75; Payroll Taxes Account 505105 for \$766.21; Workers Compensation Insurance Account 505503 for 451.71; and Employee Retirement Account 505107 for \$297.90. This amendment will reflect fiscal year salary increases for 2006-2007 for the Public Safety Department.

Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or call 915-852-1046.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 11/30/06

Americas senior signs to play college volleyball in Carolina



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

HEADING EAST — Americas Senior Christy Rodriguez signs letter of intent to play college volleyball at Chowan University in North Carolina.

Briefs

From Page 1

families in need from Dec. 11 until Dec. 22. The store relies on donations such as canned goods, usable clothing, blankets, heaters and toys. These items are then given free to families living in the Socorro school district. Operational Services will not be able to pick up donations from homes but items can be picked up from either campuses or departments. Donations can also be dropped off at the Socorro ISD Warehouse at 201 Tanton. For questions or more information call 937-0800.

In other news

■ Area residents interested in participating in a Fancy Pigeon Club are invited to attend an informational meeting in Ft. Hancock, Texas on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 1 p.m. To reach Ft. Hancock, take I-10 East to exit 72. For more information contact B.L. Robertson at P.O. 31, Ft. Hancock, Texas 79839 or call 915-276-1180. Robertson is also gathering ideas for a "Past to Present" Museum in Ft. Hancock and invites ideas from the community. Contact him at the above address and phone or call 972-746-0126.

■ Salvador H. Sanchez Elementary will be having its annual Winter Wonderland Festivities on Dec. 5 from 4-8 p.m. There will be performances by the band, orchestra, choir and theatre arts students. The school will also be offering enchiladas plates for \$5. Various vendors will be available for any holiday shopping needs. If any vendors are interested in setting up a table, cost is \$15 per table. All proceeds will be going towards the school's Special Olympic Team. For more information, call Ruth Harris at 937-5211.

■ Continuing education for adults in the Horizon area is being offered through Socorro ISD at Ensor Middle School. Included in free class offerings are ESL

classes, computer classes, GED classes, and instruction in nutrition and Salsa dance. Information: 937-0282.

■ Thinking about being a veterinarian or police officer? Or maybe you're curious about the arts or the environment? Volunteering can help you not only explore these interests but also make your community a better place. Find out about the different types of volunteer opportunities and how to get involved with Catch the Spirit: A Student's Guide to Community Service from Prudential Financial and the Federal Citizen Information Center. For your free copy, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 501N, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 501N. And visit www.pueblo.gsa.gov to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

■ As a small business owner, you keep track of everything from electricity bills to trends in your industry to employee salaries. Keeping track of employment laws may be the last thing on your mind, but it's still important. Give yourself one less administrative headache and use the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment Law Guide from the Federal Citizen Information Center. It describes all the regulations on wages, benefits, safety and health, and nondiscrimination policies explained in language you can understand, not government-ese. And there are even links for more assistance online and telephone numbers for the DOL agencies that administer the laws in case you've got questions. For your free copy, send your name, address, and a check or money order for \$1 to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 376N, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO (878-3256) and ask for Item 376N. Have your credit card handy. And visit www.pueblo.gsa.gov to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — While graduation is still six months away, Americas High School Senior Christy Rodriguez is already thinking of the next volleyball season when she will be playing at Chowan University. The right side and setter for the Americas Volleyball team signed a letter of intent on Nov. 16 to play for the school located in North Carolina. Her family sitting next to her and her teammates cheered her on.

"It's a small school, but I'm excited to go play. They haven't had a winning season but we have a strong team for fall 2007," Rodriguez explained. "It's overwhelming but I wanted to go on to play volleyball in college."

Rodriguez who plans on studying psychology is the youngest in her family, but the first to be going to an out-of-state university. Her mother was excited and nervous about letting her baby go away to school.

"I wasn't surprised about the offer but the fact she is going so far is difficult," says Corinne Rodriguez and

she advises her daughter to study hard. "It's academics first and of course she has to learn how to cook."

For Christy who has been in volleyball since her freshman year at Americas, winning the District Championship capped her senior year. Being recruited and offered a scholarship to play college volleyball is the next step.

"This is great for Christy," says her volleyball coach Alicia Gomez who helped connect the university to her senior player. "She works hard; she listens and fights for it. We are really happy for her."

To Advertise, Call 852-3235

Don't miss the run-off!

Here's why

Your vote will determine your future. Henry Bonilla and Ciro Rodriguez have opposite records on the issues that matter most to you. Vote in this upcoming special election and make your voice heard.

On Taxes

Henry Bonilla voted **against the Death Tax** and for **cutting income taxes and the marriage penalty tax**. Ciro Rodriguez voted the exact opposite on every issue, and even voted eight times against lowering the marriage penalty tax.

On Terrorism

Henry Bonilla voted to **create the Department of Homeland Security** and to **fully fund those agencies fighting terrorism**. Ciro Rodriguez voted against strengthening our borders two weeks after 9/11.

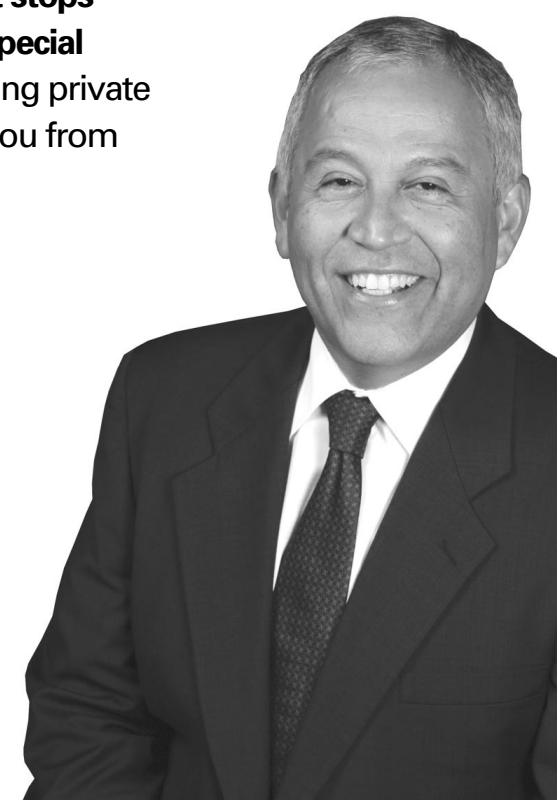
On Private Property

Henry Bonilla has consistently voted **to protect private property rights** and is **pushing a law that stops government from seizing your land for special interests**. Ciro Rodriguez supported seizing private lands in West Texas, and voted to keep you from stopping government land seizures.

**Vote in the run-off election!
Early Vote: Dec. 4 to 8
Election Day: Dec. 12**

**HENRY U.S. CONGRESS
BONILLA**

PAID FOR BY TEXANS FOR HENRY BONILLA





**DON'T LET THE END OF
SUMMER KEEP YOU FROM
A MUCH NEEDED ESCAPE**

Now through December 31, 2006, celebrate fall and winter at the Omni San Antonio Hotel. You'll enjoy luxurious accommodations, breakfast for two and our convenient location just minutes from the enchanting River Walk, shops at La Cantera, historic Alamo, Sea World of Texas and Six Flags Fiesta Texas. Call 1-800-THE-OMNI and ask for the Fall Into Winter package.

OMNI SAN ANTONIO HOTEL

9821 Colonnade Boulevard, San Antonio, TX 78230
210-691-8888 www.omnisanantonio.com

Offer valid 9/5/06 - 12/31/06. Based on availability. Not applicable to groups. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. © 2006 Omni Hotels.

\$99
PER NIGHT
(plus tax)

LEGAL

**PUBLIC
NOTICE**

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at South West Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN II3279W470021, 1969 Chevrolet Nova, 2-door, no license. WTCC-11/30/06

**SOCORRO
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

**Invitation to
Bid/Respond:**

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP/RFP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services will be accepted at the following times:

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER
6, 2006**

**CONSTRUCTION
MANAGEMENT
SERVICES
(CM@Risk)**

**RFQ NO.
199-1206-7044**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
2:00 P.M.**

**STAFFING
SERVICES
CSP NO.
199-1206-7014**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
2:30 P.M.**

**LIBRARY
INFORMATION
SYSTEM
RFI NO.
199-1206-7045**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:00 P.M.**

**TIME CLOCK
CSP NO.
199-1206-70**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:30 P.M.**

PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUSINESS SERVICES DEPT., 12300 EASTLAKE DRIVE, EL PASO, TEXAS 79928 UNTIL THE SPECIFIED TIMES. DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE ABOVE OFFICE BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 4 P.M. MONDAYS THROUGH FRIDAYS AND ON THE SOCORRO ISD WEBSITE: www.sisd.net. WTCC-11/30/06

**INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

**Invitation to
Bid/Respond:**

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP/RFP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services will be accepted at the following times:

**MONDAY,
JANUARY
08, 2006**

**DISTRICT
NETWORK
EQUIPMENT
CSP NO.
199-0108-7038**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
2:00 P.M.**

**DISTRICT
WIDE
WIRELESS
EQUIPMENT
CSP NO.
199-0108-7037**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
2:30 P.M.**

**NEW VOIP PBX
(NEW
SCHOOLS)
CSP NO.
199-0108-7039**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:00
P.M.**

**NEW VOIP PBX
FOR 7
EXISTING
SCHOOLS**

**CSP NO.
199-0108-7040**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:15 P.M.**

**UPGRADE
EXISTING PBX
TO VOIP
TRUNKING
CSP NO.
199-0108-7041**

**ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:30 P.M.**

PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUSINESS SERVICES DEPT., 12300 EASTLAKE DRIVE, EL PASO, TEXAS 79928 UNTIL THE SPECIFIED TIMES. DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE ABOVE OFFICE BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 4 P.M. MONDAYS THROUGH FRIDAYS AND ON THE SOCORRO ISD WEBSITE: www.sisd.net. WTCC-11/30/06

FINANCE

**IMMEDIATE
CASH NOW!**

Small monthly payments, private investor will buy your note for a lump sum of cash! 852-1465 or go to IGANDASSOCIATES.COM.

• Commercial •

Real Estate •

Business

12/28

**FOSTER
CARE**

24-hour care in Horizon, Fabens and Clint area. Beautiful foster home, excellent care, references. 851-3422 or 526-4815.

12/14

STORAGE

**HORIZON SELF
STORAGE**

• Small, Medium &

LARGE UNITS

• YARD SPACE
418 S. KENAZO
852-9371

TFN

SERVICES

**"Windshield
Ding —
Gimme a Ring"
JIFFY GLASS
REPAIR**

Windshield Repair Specialists

By appt. at your home or office:

R.V. Dick Harshberger

915-852-9082

**BERT'S
AUTOMOTIVE
REPAIR**

Domestic and Foreign

852-3523

1558 Oxbow,

Horizon City

**HORIZON CITY
PLUMBING**

852-1079

• Electric roofer service for sewers and drains

• Appliance installation

• Many other

plumbing services

Licensed, bonded and insured for

your protection.



**WEST TEXAS COUNTY
COURIER**

CLASSIFIED AD FORM

15 words - \$5 per week; 35 words - \$10 per week

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	(STOP HERE FOR \$5 AD.)
16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35

Please print. Send form and payment (no cash) to:

West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Deadline: Mondays

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

**STEEL BUILDING SALE
Save up to 40%!!!**

Fast Delivery

• 30'x40' • 40'x60'

• 60'x100' • 100'x400'

All Sizes Made To Order

• Riding Arenas

• Barns

• Equipment Storage

• Agricultural

• Commercial

• Residential

(915) 525-4897

**West Texas
County Courier
852-3235**

**Archives:
WWW.WTCCOURIER.COM**

Miners done for this year, Price recruits due to suit up next season

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The Miners closed out the third season of the Mike Price era last Saturday night in an evening reminiscent of the bad old days of UTEP football.

Taking on a one-win Memphis team and needing a victory to become bowl eligible, it was obvious to many that the Miners would put together a Herculean effort and deal with Memphis accordingly.

Apparently, this was obvious to everyone at the Sun Bowl except for the guys wearing the orange and blue uniforms.

Coming into the season, all the talk was about how high the Miners would eventually be ranked in those Top-25 polls.

The idea of the Miners having a winning record and being invited to a mid-level bowl game was a given. The only real questions at the beginning of the season was whether the Miners would actually win Conference USA and which mid-level bowl game would they be going to.

I mean, we have to make traveling plans, right?

Well, to say that things didn't exactly turn out the way Mike Price, the team itself, us media types and the El Paso fans thought it would is probably the King Kong of understatements.

So what was the problem? Where do we start?

The way I see it, there were five huge problems. The Miners' offensive line couldn't block anything. The running game was inept. The defense forgot how to tackle. The coaching staff forgot how to motivate the players. And the team just could not put two consecutive halves of football together.

The offensive line's inability to hold a block made UTEP one of the worst running teams in the country and forced Jordan Palmer to hurry many throws and run for his life.

The Miners thought they had a 1,000-yard rusher in Marcus Thomas but for some reason Thomas fell into the habit of taking the handoff and stuttering at the line of scrimmage instead of running through the hole as fast as he could. By the time he saw the hole and got going again, it was too late, the defense had already swallowed him up.

On defense, UTEP must have had some kind of pregame

ritual where they would smear their hands with buckets of butter. And, as you know, having butter all over your fingers makes it very hard to hold on to things — things like running backs, quarterbacks and wide receivers.

Football is a game of emotion. And especially late in the season, when winning was of the essence, the Miners didn't appear to have any desire or heart, or enthusiasm. It's true, players shouldn't have to be motivated but many players need it and the coaching staff did a poor job of providing any at all.

When you think of it, UTEP was pretty lucky to finish with a 5-7 record. Remember the San Diego State game? The Miners took a 27-3 lead and had to hold on to win by seven. They lost a 17-0 halftime lead against SMU and held on for a 24-21 win. Against NMSU, the Miners led 17-0, 24-7 and 31-14 before holding on for a 44-38 win.

All season coach Price preached about finishing strong. But not only did the Miners not finish games strong, they (once again) closed the season anything but strong, losing five of their last six games.

This season of possibilities is over. Gone are record-setting performers Jordan Palmer (holder of every team passing record imaginable), Johnnie Lee Higgins Jr. (the best pass receiver ever at UTEP) and Reagan Schneider (the Miners' all-time leading scorer).

Some proven players like Quintin Demps, Braxton Amy, Jamar Hunt, Jeremy Jones, Lorne Sam, Jake Sears, Marcus Thomas, Joe West and Donald Buckram return next season. They'll be joined by a bunch of future stars recruited by Price and his staff.

UTEP's athletic level should rise dramatically next year but the problem will be getting them to play together as a unit.

And the biggest position to fill, especially in a Mike Price offense, is at quarterback. The jury is still out whether the Miners will go with a player already on the roster or fill the slot from the junior college ranks.

Either way, I have no doubt whatsoever that Price will build a championship team here. I mean, the guy has averaged seven wins a year here with players he didn't even recruit.

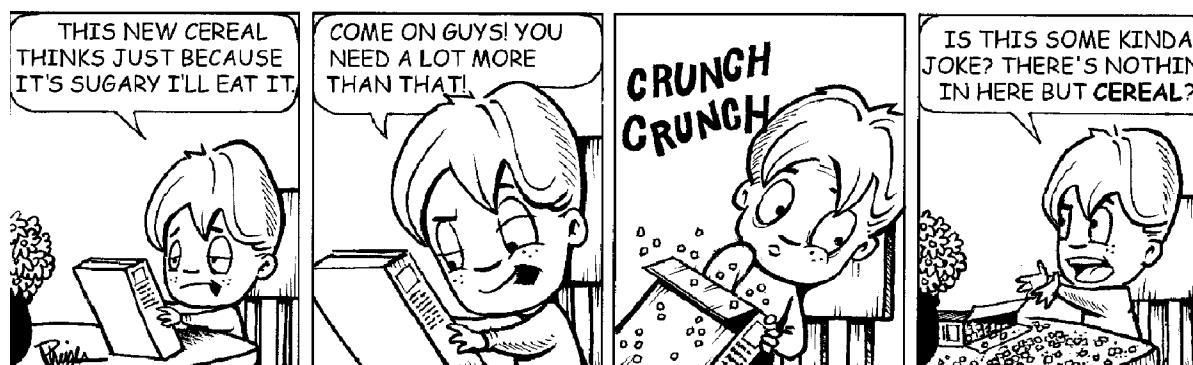
When's the last time a coach could say he averaged seven wins a year at UTEP?

Comix

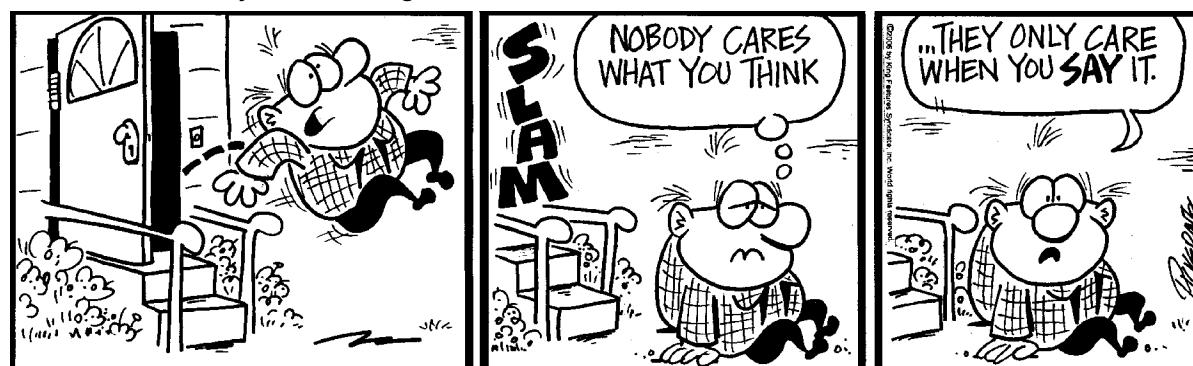
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



The importance of 'being there'

By Don Flood

You know how it is sometimes. You want to make your child's birthday party, but you've got work, a doctor's appointment, or maybe 25-to-life in the slammer.

Time was, a little — or long — visit up the river could mean missing out on life.

No more. A recent issue of Popular Photography featured a new business called Photos Beyond the Walls.

As the write-up put it so well, "This ingenious service will take pictures of you and your incarcerated significant other out of the depressing prison visiting room and composite you in a preferable scene."

It even made suggestions. You could "pose in a gazebo, show off your new (fantasy) Mercedes, or relax in a cozy winter ski lodge."

Sure, why not pose in the White House while you're at it? You can be the president's special guest at a state dinner in your honor!

It'll be great for you and your kids too — no more "Sorry, son, I can't make it. I'm going up to the Big House."

With the help of Photos Beyond the Wall you can "make" all your children's special occasions — first day of school, homecoming dance, graduation. And you'll have photographic "proof."

In fact, you won't even have to tell your kids you're "going away for a while." You can show up 20 years later with the photos of you and them together and reminisce about the great times you had together.

They won't even know the difference! Heck, they'll probably say to themselves, "Wow, my dad was always there for me and I was so busy playing stupid video games I

didn't even notice."

Then it will be time for you to be gracious. "That's OK, son, you can make it up to your dear old dad by buying me a 48-inch, flat-panel, high-definition TV."

But this service isn't just for incarcerated dads. It's for all dads.

In the old days, all a man had to do was be a "good provider."

Not to denigrate the value of labor and a paycheck, but being a "provider" doesn't exactly entail heavy emotional involvement.

But people said this all the time. "He was a good provider." Which is pretty much like saying, "He was a good pay stub."

You could be a "good provider" while chasing showgirls in Las Vegas, as long you kept sending the checks.

But somewhere along the way, things went horribly, horribly wrong.

Dads became much more involved in raising the kids. They were expected to know to all sorts of arcane information about their children — their names, their approximate ages, even the sports they played.

It's become a national nightmare.

I can say this now that my son is 16, but watching a bunch of 5-year-olds play soccer is worse than watching grass grow — the difference being that at least your average blade of grass doesn't expect you to pay attention.

But Photos Beyond the Wall can set you free. You can "be" at your kid's soccer game — with the photos to prove it — while lounging at home with the paper and a cup of coffee.

Why didn't they think of this before?

(c) 2006 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

HEALTH SCARE	
ACROSS	
1	Matterhorn, e.g.
4	It's a long story
8	Steel support
12	Iridescent stones
17	Ocho ___, Jamaica
19	Move through mud
21	Submarine base?
22	Warhol subject
23	Start of a remark
25	Not give __ (be indifferent)
26	Play
27	Moshe of Israel
28	Growl
30	Appearance
32	Pro foe
33	Walked
35	Part 2 of a remark
39	Lillie or Straight
43	Coasted
44	Pea (Popeye's kid)
45	The Greek Tycoon" subject
46	Actress Tyne
48	Rock's Fleetwood
50	Layette fasteners
54	Unwell
55	Fall in a heap
58	"The Messiah," for one
61	Electrical inventor
63	Word form for "large"
64	Morticia, to
DOWN	
1	Pugsley
65	Coarse flour
66	Clean-air org.
68	Dutch painter
70	Ram's remark
71	Compass pt.
72	Casino cubes
75	Part 3 of a remark
79	New Mexico resort
80	Curie or Arden
81	Actress Tyler
82	General Bradley
83	Canals
85	A bad figure?
87	Alias initials
88	Corpulent
91	Furnishings
95	Noisy quarrels
97	Like some butter
99	Exist
100	Innsbruck's locale
101	Cable channel
103	Littlest than little
104	JVC competitor
105	Summer stinger ('93 film)
108	Promise
111	Part of PG
114	Part 4 of a remark
118	New York county
119	Sopranos' network
120	Geometry calculation
121	Trepidation
125	67 Down feature
128	_ beaver
131	Can openers?
133	End of a remark
135	Put on
136	Frozen capital
137	Flynn of films
138	Fabled racer
139	Mortise's mate
140	Have to have
141	'60s talk-show host
142	TV's "The Flying
143	"
144	Where the action is
145	Parched
146	One of the
147	Simpsons
148	>Youthful hairdos
149	Fast flier
150	"Oh, woe!"
151	Wedding wear
152	Disoriented
153	Journalist Tarbell
154	onion
155	Actor Delon
156	11 Matures
157	"Grumpy _ Men" ('93 film)
158	Norm
159	You can count on them
160	"Tree" (62 hit)
161	Street talk
162	Get cracking
163	Rosemary and basil
164	"Are you __ out?"
165	"Abner"
166	Hot off the press
167	"The Aeneid"
168	character
169	stopwatch
170	breather
171	Poison
172	Mortise's danglers
173	Agatha's colleague
174	Unruffle
175	Grasso or Raines
176	Marina sight
177	Small band
178	Where the action is
179	Hockey's Lindros
180	Last inning
181	Often heaved
182	Subside
183	Boston airport
184	Make one's hair stand on end?
185	Laugh loudly
186	Pile up
187	Poe's "Annabel _"
188	Book of maps
189	Strikebreakers
190	Wise guy
191	Neutral tone
192	Ditch pottery
193	Tower material?
194	Composer Franck
195	Walk in the woods
196	Stop, sailor!"
197	Pick up the check
198	Low digit
199	Eccentric
200	Crab's expression
201	Lingerie item
202	Empedocles' last stand?
203	Coordinates
204	Namu or Willy character
205	Flagon filler
206	unto oneself
207	Home of the Osmonds
208	Thornfield governess
209	Distinguished
210	Na Na
211	C & W's Dolly
212	It's in the bag
213	Chrissie of The Pretenders
214	Hockey's Lindros
215	Last inning
216	Often heaved
217	Subside
218	Boston airport
219	Make one's hair stand on end?
220	Trail mix
221	Nimble
222	'82 Jeff Bridges film
223	Neutral tone
224	Rock hound?
225	Freud topic
226	Cartoon canine
227	Turf
228	Flagon filler
229	unto oneself
230	Home of the Osmonds
231	Thornfield governess
232	Distinguished
233	Na Na
234	C & W's Dolly
235	It's in the bag
236	Chrissie of The Pretenders
237	Hockey's Lindros
238	Last inning
239	Often heaved
240	Subside
241	Boston airport
242	Make one's hair stand on end?
243	Trail mix
244	Nimble
245	'82 Jeff Bridges film
246	Neutral tone
247	Rock hound?
248	Freud topic
249	Cartoon canine
250	Turf
251	Flagon filler
252	unto oneself
253	Home of the Osmonds
254	Thornfield governess
255	Distinguished
256	Na Na
257	C & W's Dolly
258	It's in the bag
259	Chrissie of The Pretenders
260	Hockey's Lindros
261	Last inning
262	Often heaved
263	Subside
264	Boston airport
265	Make one's hair stand on end?
266	Trail mix
267	Nimble
268	'82 Jeff Bridges film
269	Neutral tone
270	Rock hound?
271	Freud topic
272	Cartoon canine
273	Turf
274	Flagon filler
275	unto oneself
276	Home of the Osmonds
277	Thornfield governess
278	Distinguished
279	Na Na
280	C & W's Dolly
281	It's in the bag
282	Chrissie of The Pretenders
283	Hockey's Lindros
284	Last inning
285	Often heaved
286	Subside
287	Boston airport
288	Make one's hair stand on end?
289	Trail mix
290	Nimble
291	'82 Jeff Bridges film
292	Neutral tone
293	Rock hound?
294	Freud topic
295	Cartoon canine
296	Turf
297	Flagon filler
298	unto oneself
299	Home of the Osmonds
300	Thornfield governess
301	Distinguished
302	Na Na
303	C & W's Dolly
304	It's in the bag
305	Chrissie of The Pretenders
306	Hockey's Lindros
307	Last inning
308	Often heaved
309	Subside
310	Boston airport
311	Make one's hair stand on end?
312	Trail mix
313	Nimble
314	'82 Jeff Bridges film
315	Neutral tone
316	Rock hound?
317	

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I receive Social Security disability benefits because of cancer. However, I am a master electrician and some neighbors would like me to do odd jobs for them whenever I feel good enough. Can I do this without jeopardizing my disability benefits?

A: You should contact Social Security if you are getting disability benefits and decide to try working again. Basically, you can continue to receive disability benefits as long as you are unable to do "substantial" work. In

2006, monthly earnings of \$860 or more (\$1,450 if you are blind) are considered substantial. There are other "work incentives" that designed to help individuals who are considering returning to work.

Q: I live in Texas and was just approved for SSI disability benefits. I understood from talking to the people at Social Security that I would not have to apply for Medicaid benefits, but would get them automatically. But my cousin, who lives in North Dakota and

gets SSI, says I need to file a separate application for Medicaid. Is he right?

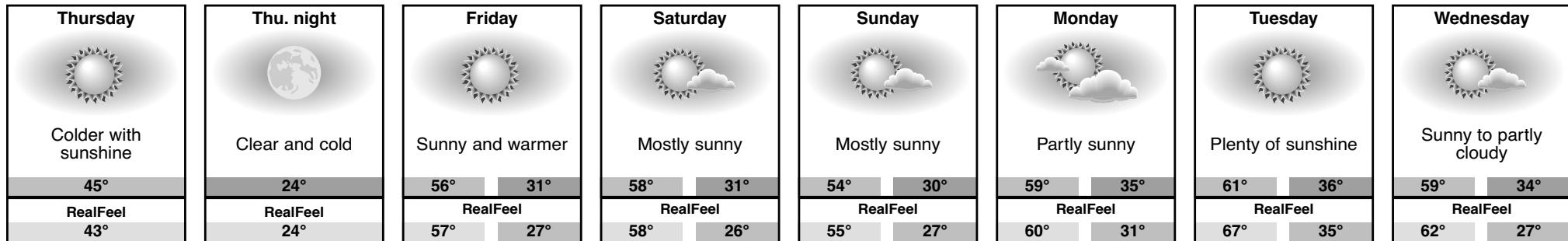
A: No. Thirty-two states (including Texas) and the District of Columbia automatically provide Medicaid to people who are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). In these States, the SSI application is also the Medicaid application. Your Medicaid eligibility usually starts the same month as your SSI eligibility, but in certain circumstances can also be retroactive for up to three months. Seven other states (and the Northern Mariana Islands) use the same rules to decide eligibility for Medicaid and SSI, but require filing a separate ap-

plication. Those States are Alaska, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon and Utah. The following states use their own eligibility rules for Medicaid, which are different from Social Security's SSI rules, and require a separate application — Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma and Virginia.

as early as age 62. However, if you start your benefits early, they are permanently reduced a fraction of a percent for each month before your full retirement age. For example, if your full retirement age is 66 and you sign up for Social Security when you're age 62, you will receive 75 percent of your full retirement benefit

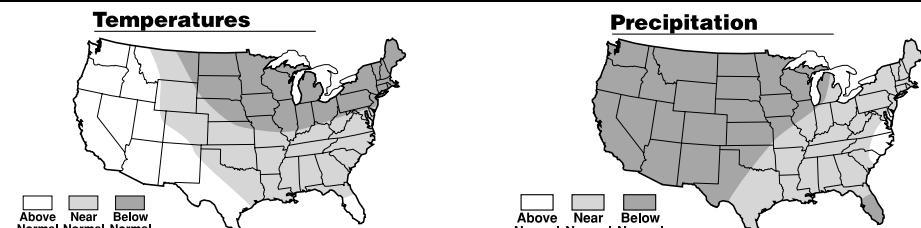
For more information visit your local Security office, see www.ssa.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX



The patented RealFeel Temperature® is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK



IN THE SKY

Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Full	Last
Thu.	6:47 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Thu.	1:55 p.m.	1:55 a.m.		
Fri.	6:48 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	Fri.	2:28 p.m.	3:02 a.m.		
Sat.	6:48 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	Sat.	3:04 p.m.	4:12 a.m.		
Sun.	6:49 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	Sun.	3:47 p.m.	5:24 a.m.		
Mon.	6:50 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	Mon.	4:37 p.m.	6:36 a.m.		
Tues.	6:51 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	Tues.	5:34 p.m.	7:44 a.m.		
Wed.	6:52 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	Wed.	6:37 p.m.	8:46 a.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	H	L	W	H	L	W	H	L	W	H	L	W
Abilene, TX	43	27	c	52	33	s	54	32	s	49	29	pc
Albuquerque, NM	33	18	s	42	26	s	46	24	pc	44	22	s
Amarillo, TX	34	20	pc	47	23	s	40	21	pc	44	23	s
Austin, TX	54	32	r	60	31	s	58	33	s	56	30	s
Brownsville, TX	68	47	t	69	50	s	70	55	r	67	45	r
Dodge City, KS	35	16	pc	47	21	s	39	18	c	39	19	s
Jackson, MS	76	45	t	52	33	pc	55	35	s	57	33	s
Laredo, TX	64	42	t	64	45	s	68	45	c	59	44	r
Little Rock, AR	60	32	r	51	28	pc	47	30	s	43	28	pc
Lubbock, TX	36	18	sn	50	22	s	46	26	s	48	25	s
Memphis, TN	70	42	r	46	32	pc	50	33	s	46	28	pc
Midland, TX	43	25	pc	56	30	s	56	31	s	48	29	pc
Pueblo, CO	30	8	s	45	16	c	30	11	sn	39	10	pc
Roswell, NM	41	20	s	55	25	s	51	27	pc	47	26	s
St. Louis, MO	45	29	r	34	20	sf	38	22	pc	32	20	pc
San Antonio, TX	59	32	r	61	39	s	60	38	pc	58	33	s
Texarkana, AR	60	32	r	50	30	pc	52	30	s	48	33	pc
Waco, TX	50	32	r	59	32	s	52	32	s	55	32	s
Wichita, KS	27	18	c	43	20	s	41	21	pc	37	21	s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Yard Care Made Easy!

Great Value!

FS 45 Trimmer

\$129.99

Easy to use, well-balanced homeowner trimmer.

Top rated by a leading consumer magazine

MS 170 Chain Saw

\$169.99

14" bar

This lightweight saw is designed for occasional wood-cutting tasks around the home.

Exclusively at Your Local STIHL Dealer.

Fabens, TX
Ryan Supply, Inc.
117 N. Fabens
(915) 764-2239

El Paso, TX
Dyer Cycle
4501 Dyer
(915) 566-6022

All prices are BME-SRP. Available at participating dealers.

Are you ready for a **STIHL**?